



CITY OF
FORT LAUDERDALE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

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August 18, 2006

BANK OF AMERICA
ROBBERY
(Suspect in Custody)

**** Surveillance Video
Available Upon Request**

ORIGINAL RELEASE:

On August 15, 2006 at approximately 9:00AM, the Fort Lauderdale Police Department received a 911 call from employees at the Bank of America located at 2300 East Sunrise Boulevard. Officers immediately responded to the scene; however they were unable to locate the suspect who had fled the area.

Detectives arrived on scene and learned that the suspect entered the bank shortly after they opened and proceeded to speak with a teller about banking transactions. Moments into their conversation, the suspect told the teller he had a gun in his waistband and demanded money. The teller complied and the suspect swiftly headed towards the exit.

A customer at the bank had been standing in line behind the suspect and had overheard the threat of a gun and saw the suspect grab money from the teller. As the suspect went towards the exit, the customer ran after him and tried to leg sweep the suspect. The suspect ran through the parking lot and the customer was unable to stop him. During the short chase, the customer saw the suspect drop his glasses on the ground, which were turned over to detectives.

The suspect is described as a w/m, 45 – 55 years of age, 5'8" – 5'9", medium build and a bald head. He was wearing an aqua blue long t-shirt, multi-colored long shorts and white socks.

(more)

UPDATE:

On August 18, 2006 at approximately 10:00AM, a Broward County Sheriff's deputy made contact with a w/m in the 900 block of North Pompano Beach Boulevard. The man initially provided a false name to the deputy but the man's true identity was soon revealed. The deputy identified the man as Charles Arthur Christian, dob 07-08-1961, who had an active warrant for narcotics. The deputy arrested the suspect for the warrant then learned that Christian's name was in fact "flagged" in the database by Fort Lauderdale detectives. They identified Christian as a possible suspect shortly after receiving several tips through Broward County Crime Stoppers and the media.

At approximately 11:00AM, Christian met with detectives and admitted to robbing the Bank of America days earlier. Charles Arthur Christian has been formally charged with Robbery.

